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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,477	06/02/2005	Masamoto Tanabiki	P27693	4986
52123 7590 07/10/2008 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			EXAMINER ABYANEH, ALI S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2137	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/10/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/530,477	Applicant(s) TANABIKI ET AL.	
	Examiner ALI S. ABYANEH	Art Unit 2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07-14-2005 and 01-04-2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-7 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement PTO-1449

2. The Information Disclosure Statement submitted by applicant on 07-14-2005 and 01-04-2007 has been considered. Please see attached PTO-1449.

Claim objections

3. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In line 2 of the claim, before "unused", change "un" to --an--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Douglas (US Patent No. 5,537,635).

Regarding claim 1

Douglas An information storage apparatus including a plurality of partitioned areas with different security levels in a memory area, comprising: an

area control section that controls addresses of said partitioned areas in the memory area; an area update condition control section that controls update conditions when updating the number or sizes of said partitioned areas (column 6, lines 10-26); an area update decision section that decides whether a partition request requesting updating of the number or sizes of said partitioned areas satisfies said update conditions or not; and an area update section that updates, when said partition request satisfies said update conditions, the partitioned areas in the memory area according to said partition request (column 7, line 21 to column 8, line 17).

Regarding claim 2 and 3

Douglas furthermore teaches, wherein procedure conditions related to an updating procedure and entity conditions related to update contents are specified as said update conditions; and wherein any one of at least an updatable count, maximum number of partitioned areas and maximum size of the partitioned areas is specified as said entity conditions (column 3, line 65-column 4, line 4).

Regarding claim 4 and 5

Douglas furthermore teaches, wherein said area update section repartitions unused area where no actual data in the memory area is recorded according to said partition request; and a receipt creation section that creates a

receipt indicating that said partitioned area has been updated successfully (column 8, lines 34-45).

Regarding claim 6 and 7

Douglas furthermore teaches, wherein said receipt is described the size of the updated partitioned area and a difference in size of the partitioned area before and after updating; and an output section that outputs information on updating of partitioned areas in the memory area carried out by said area update section; and a reception section that receives user confirmation registration in response to said information, wherein the update of said partitioned areas becomes effective when the confirmation registration is accepted (column 8, lines 18-45).

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ali Abyaneh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7961. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from (8:00-5:00). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on **(571) 272-3865**. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned as (571) 273-8300 Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

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information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Ali S Abyaneh/
Examiner, Art Unit 2137
07-03-2008

/Emmanuel L. Moise/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2137